

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JULY 4, 2013 NATURALIZATION
CEREMONY IN HAMMOND

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate the individuals who took their oaths of citizenship on July 4, 2013. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great Nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony took place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the League of Women Voters of the Calumet Area and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, was held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the globe to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The oath ceremony is a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2013, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Chong Ran Embury, Weiping Zhong, Boyanka Radeva, Odiseeva, Olena Mykhailivna Rogers, Izabela Zuzanna Mazur, Kavita Goyal, Pooja Goyal, Yoshiko Tonosaki Simpson, Nora Mardi, Margarita Figueroa De Cornejo, Syed Durvesh Mohiuddin, Eunice Childress, Rafael Navarro Gomez, Justyna Ksiazek, James Lisitsas, Yvonne Monalisa Odemba, Dragoljub Martinovic, Elizabeth Anne Robinson, Danute Jackson, Daniela Gotis, Edgardo Reyes Eliscupides, Sergio Hernandez Romo, Lynn Bouziotis, Nancy Alondra Gallardo, Jose Guadalupe Gonzalez Zambrano, Fadma Alburei, Maria Nazare Barros Bezerra, Liliana Guadalupe Brady, Norma Angelica Camarillo, Adrian Ferrer, Angel Giron, Vandana Mona Graham, Michael Ikechukwu Ibekie, Marija Klechkaroski, Maria Leanos Mota, Guillermina Lopez, Mauricio Lopez, Himelda Morua, Syeda Vajahath Muhiuddin, Antonio Ochoa, Cristina Pellegrini Rath, Amrit Pal Singh Sarai, Amela Spahic, Salvador Tinoco, Angela Arutiunovna Tonoyan-Hopkins, Huseyin Salih Usak, Ana Luisa Vargas, Genoveva Viramontes, and Jennifer Zhang.

Though each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that

the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals, who became citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2013, the day of our Nation's independence. As American citizens, they are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

TRIBUTE TO DICK WAYBRIGHT

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard “Dick” Waybright on the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the West Virginia Forestry Association, after thirty-three years of service. Mr. Waybright's work with the Forestry Association has earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues, association members, and many others who have worked with him throughout his many years with the organization.

Mr. Waybright began his career in public service in 1968 as a teacher in the Mason County school system, later becoming a coach then Assistant Principal. He continued to serve the public by later joining West Virginia University's Extension Services as a 4-H Agent in Kanawha County, where he coordinated county 4-H programs, directed Camp Virgil Tate and the Kanawha County Fair. In 1980, Mr. Waybright joined the West Virginia Forestry Association as Executive Director and has been serving in that position since that time.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Waybright has worked with seven governors and countless legislators on behalf of the association. These relationships allowed Mr. Waybright and the Forestry Association to achieve great legislative successes, including the Managed Timberland Tax, Logging Sediment Control Act, defeating the Excess Acreage Privilege Tax, resolved Tier 2.5 Water Pollution Control issue, among many other initiatives important to the forestry industry.

On July 31, 2013, Dick Waybright will retire from his position with the Forestry Association. Though his colleagues, association membership, and many others will miss working with him, Dick leaves the association in a strong position to continue his legacy.

Dick Waybright currently resides in Ripley, Jackson County with his wife, Linda. Together Dick and Linda have two daughters, three grandsons, and one granddaughter. In addition to his role with the Forestry Association,

Dick serves his community as a member of the Jackson County Commission. He is also active in his church, serving as a Sunday school teacher and chair of Ripley Calvary United Methodist Church's Administrative Board.

Mr. Speaker, the State of West Virginia owes Richard “Dick” Waybright a tremendous debt of gratitude for his many years of past and current community service. It is my honor to thank Mr. Waybright for his devotion and congratulate him on his retirement. I am proud to call him friend and fellow Mountaineer.

STAN MUSIAL VETERANS
MEMORIAL BRIDGE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong and enthusiastic support of H.R. 2383, which designates the portion of the new Interstate 70 bridge over the Mississippi River connecting St. Louis and southwestern Illinois as the “Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge.” I support this legislation not only because it will ease traffic congestion and make transportation easier across state lines, but also because it honors a great American and one of the most beloved figures in the storied history of St. Louis, Missouri.

Stan “The Man” Musial is a prime example of determination as seen through his athletic career and being named as the one of the greatest hitters in baseball history. His athletic achievements show the strength and hard work he put forth in order to achieve the dreams he dreamt of at a young age. He not only is a baseball hero that many remember, but a iconic hero that gave St. Louis one of its historical markers. Today, we can see how the city admires this star leader with his proud history all over the city and the tribute made to him outside of the Cardinals baseball stadium.

Not only was Stan Musial's baseball career an example of his determination, but his willingness to serve the country as seen through his service in the United States Navy reflects his notable character as well. Stan Musial served as a Seaman First Class (E3) and was given the honorable Navy Memorial's Lone Sailor Award which honors Navy veterans who've excelled in civilian life.

With this notable athlete and veteran in our history, it is the least that can be done to name this structure as a memorial and sign of this great individual. This bridge will allow for easier transportation across the Mississippi River and allow for greater access to both Illinois and Missouri. With projects such as this, we will be able to promote growth, sustain national and international trade, as well as ensure that our citizens are able to take advantage of proper infrastructure.

Again, I congratulate the members of the Missouri and Illinois delegation for brokering

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the compromise reflected in this legislation. The Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge is strong and sturdy and made of steel, just like Stan Musial and the veterans who risked their lives to keep us free.

HONORING MR. JAMAL BROCK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young man making a difference in his school, Charleston High School in Tallahatchie County, MS, Mr. Jamal Brock.

At the age of thirteen, Jamal started his own tutoring program right in his backyard called, "Jamal's Backyard Tutoring." He had the help and support of Ms. Gerline Garvin a well respected mother and grandmother also in the community. He said it was tough but felt the biggest need of this community was to education the children, feeling it was their only hope to change the community and individual lives.

Jamal's tutoring program taught basic life skills, in addition to helping students with homework. The program operated year round that included summer and holidays. During the holidays he would work the students on community projects of giving back, sowing the seeds of community and support. While in school, Jamal is just as active as the Senior Class President. They plan and carryout fundraising activities to pay for planned projects and trips. Jamal is currently in the process of spear heading active participation in the community relations project for racial reconciliation with the William Winters Institute. I am proud to have Jamal Brock as a citizen of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jamal Brock for his current active role as a student making a difference.

SMITHSONIAN FREE ADMISSION
ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Smithsonian Free Admission Act of 2013 to reinforce 170 years of consistent Smithsonian Institution policy of admitting the public to all permanent exhibits without charge. This policy has served the nation well. Families come to Washington, D.C. to learn about their country through its public monuments and sites. While the private amenities here can be costly for the average family, Americans have looked forward to the free museums and other official offerings for generations. The Smithsonian's free admission policy reflects the intent of its founder, John Smithson, whose gift to the federal government carried the condition that the Smithsonian be established to increase the knowledge of the public, free of charge. The bill establishing the Smithsonian, introduced by Senator William C. Preston on February 17, 1841, stat-

ed explicitly that the Smithsonian would "preserve and exhibit with no fee" all works of art and science. This intent and tradition was interrupted by the Smithsonian's Board of Regents, which, without notice to Congress, said casually that it would charge an admission fee for a permanent exhibit for the first time in its history, and on January 29, 2007, the Smithsonian instituted a fee for admission to the National Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion. Congress, of course, not the Board of Regents, should decide so basic a policy, especially when it departs from long-standing public policy. This admission fee sets a harmful precedent for future permanent exhibits, making it difficult to deny the other Smithsonian entities that right and may encourage other Smithsonian entities to structure their exhibits to fit the Butterfly Pavilion model.

The Butterfly Pavilion opened on February 14, 2008. Although the Smithsonian had previously charged fees for films and shows, such as IMAX films, the National Air and Space Museum's Planetarium, and the National Zoo's Christmas Lights special, the \$6 admission fee for the Butterfly Pavilion marked the first time an admission fee was charged for a permanent exhibit. My bill requires a report to Congress in advance of any proposed fees and requires the Secretary of the Smithsonian to submit a plan for funding the Butterfly Pavilion without an admission fee.

The Smithsonian Modernization Act, which I am also introducing today, addresses the Smithsonian's fundraising capacity by restructuring and expanding the Smithsonian's Board of Regents, from a board almost half of whose members are public officials to a board consisting solely of private citizens, who have greater experience and fundraising capacity than public officials. The fundraising ability of the Smithsonian was clear in the opening of the National Portrait Gallery, for example, where, according to a Congressional Research Service (CRS) report (RL 33560), donors contributed funds for the new auditorium and roof over the courtyard of the National Portrait Gallery. This private fundraising capability would be enhanced by my bill.

The Smithsonian Modernization Act and similar measures, not admission fees, provide the most realistic vehicles to raise funds for the Smithsonian without cost to the government or to the public. Admission fees can bring in only token amounts. According to CRS, the Smithsonian has long prided itself on "free access." Admission fees are not the answer for taxpayers, who have already paid through the federal government's 70 percent contribution to this public institution's annual budget. Federal taxpayers do not expect to pay again through an admission fee to a federally financed institution.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL
WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join the rest of the country in observing National Women's Health Week during the week of May 12th through the 18th. As the

well-being of all Americans is important, our women have been and will always be the backbone of this country. We must continue to protect and encourage women in their efforts to stay healthy.

National Women's Health Week was initiated by President Barack Obama in 2012 as a result of the Affordable Care Act, which I proudly sponsored. The President believes in honoring women by demanding gender equality in the health arena. Reportedly, women pay higher health insurance premiums than men. The Affordable Care Act prohibits discrimination against women, including making it illegal for insurance companies to deny coverage for women who have preexisting conditions such as cancer or pregnancy.

I encourage all women to make their health a priority this year and schedule professional, health care visits for regular check-ups and preventative screening. Many times, women are often caring for others that they pay less attention to their health—physically, mentally, and emotionally. I commend organizations that provide women with preventative services, such as New York's own Harlem Healthy Living and Community Healthy Network.

We must recommit ourselves to caring for the well-being of women everywhere. This year, I stand with my fellow colleagues in Congress to continue providing services that protect and secure women and their well-being.

HONORING DONOVAN MITCHELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Donovan Mitchell, a dedicated student, who is making the difference in his community.

Growing up in Holmes County, one does not usually hear many success stories involving education; however, there are some exceptions. Donovan Mitchell is one of them.

Education has always been one of the most important things in his life, mostly due to the fact that he was raised by a family of educators. His grandparents, mother, aunt, and uncle have all served as teachers in elementary and/or high schools. From a young age, they made sure that he understood the importance of obtaining a good education.

Throughout elementary and high school he received stellar grades. He even went so far as to score the highest mark on the ACT test out of his entire graduating class. At that time, his grandmother worked for the Community Students Learning Center. After noticing Donovan's constant educational success, she suggested that he volunteer as a tutor at the center. As a result, Donovan spent the majority of his senior year tutoring younger students in mathematics. Eventually, the center established a division where he specifically tutored students who were preparing to take the ACT test. The tutoring sessions were very beneficial by improving their ACT scores and positioned students to attend their colleges of choice. Also while volunteering, Donovan participated in various community service events. The most notable event was his portrayal of the former Rep. Robert Clark in a play about his life. He continued working with the center

until he graduated. Afterwards the Community Students Learning Center hired him to assist in teaching mathematics for their summer program. He spent the entire summer working with the center, and positioned himself to be the recipient of a scholarship from the Congressional Black Caucus.

Donovan attends Jackson State University where he is a senior political science major. While in college he has continued his educational success. He has received numerous awards such as Most Outstanding Student in Political Science both his sophomore and junior year, and being recognized on the Dean's List every year. Last summer, Donovan was accepted to study public policy at Princeton University in the Public Policy and International Affairs program. Upon completion of this program, he received many scholarships to Ivy League schools such as Harvard and Princeton. Donovan is currently finishing his last semester and will be obtaining his B.A. in Political Science. He has also received a scholarship to attend the University of Mississippi School of Law. After graduation, he will be pursuing a career as an attorney.

Donovan owes all of his success to how his journey began. Coming from a small town, and being humbled through his volunteer service has made him the person he is today. He loves to tell his story in hope that it will motivate other young people traveling down a similar path.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Donovan Mitchell, for his humble dedication and determination in making a difference in his community.

RECOGNIZING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of Olympic National Park located on the Olympic Peninsula in the great State of Washington. Seventy-five years ago, on June 29, 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation that established the Olympic National Park. In the intervening years, the Olympic National Park has become one of the most beloved and visited national parks in the country.

In establishing Olympic National Park, Congress defined the park's purpose as to: "... preserve for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the people, the finest sample of primeval forests of Sitka spruce, western hemlock, Douglas fir, and western red cedar in the entire United States; to provide suitable winter range and permanent protection for the herds of native Roosevelt elk and other wildlife indigenous to the area; to conserve and render available to the people, for recreational use, this outstanding mountainous country, containing numerous glaciers and perpetual snow fields and a portion of the surrounding verdant forest together with a narrow string along the beautiful Washington coast."

The park combines three different communities into one—an extensive old-growth rain forest, mountains topped with glaciers, and miles of untarnished Pacific Ocean coast. In

recognition of these areas, the World Heritage Convention named Olympic National Park as a World Heritage Site, and the United National Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization heralded the park as an International Biosphere Reserve.

Olympic National Park has something that both tourists and scientists alike can marvel at—more than 650 archeological spots detailing 12,000 years of human life.

The Olympic National Park stands as a testament to the diverse heritage of America. As it has been for the last 75 years, Olympic National Park will be protected and preserved for generations.

Mr. Speaker, our country is a better place because of the special landscapes like Olympic National Park. I commend the work of M. Sarah Creachbaum, the Superintendent of Olympic National Park, park staff, National Park Service, and all fellow citizens who have dedicated time, resources, and energy to protect and preserve this biological and historical treasure. I am pleased today to recognize the Olympic National Park in the United States Congress.

HONORING ALBERT RAMSEY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Albert Ramsey has led the Yonkers Department of Veterans Services since 2000 modernizing an office and bringing new services to help the approximately 18,000 veterans and their dependents in the City of Yonkers. And today I am proud to join with Yonkers in honoring Albert Ramsey as a veteran who served 28 years in the United States Air Force.

Our nation's freedom has been preserved by members of the Armed Forces, and they continue to do so today. As a Member of Congress, I have consistently supported veterans and our servicemen and women. They deserve no less from us. We owe the preservation of our freedoms and our way of life to the veterans who proudly served their country.

Albert Ramsey advocates for and assists veterans and their families helping them to access services and benefits and to receive their deserved recognition. He strives to educate the community about veterans' needs and their many contributions to and sacrifices for our nation.

Prior to his joining the City of Yonkers, he was a Service Officer at the New York State Division of Veteran's Affairs and a board member of the Veterans Coalition of the Hudson Valley. His work was recognized by the New York American Legion who awarded him their Service Officer of the Year Award.

He joined the Air Force upon graduating from high school. He earned three Associate Degrees and completed both the Non-Commissioned Officers Academy and the Senior NCO Academy during his service. He retired from the USAF in 1990 and graduated with Distinction from Nyack College with a G.P.A. of 3.86 in 1995. He lives with his wife of eleven years Charlene.

I am proud to join with the City of Yonkers in honoring Albert Ramsey on Veterans Appreciation Day for his service to his country

and his outstanding work in helping his fellow veterans and their families.

HONORING MS. BRENDA LASHAY TURNER-BUCK

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Brenda Lashay Turner-Buck, a remarkable worker, who is changing her community.

Brenda Lashay Turner-Buck was born September 30, 1966 to Rev. and Mrs. Percy Turner. She is the second of three children. Brenda does have an older brother, Vincent, and a younger sister, Tammie. Brenda learned the importance of independence since she was a middle child.

Brenda graduated from Jefferson High School as Salutatorian of her class in 1984. She enrolled at Alcorn State University in Agriculture Economics and received her B.S. in 1987, followed by her Master's in 1992.

Throughout Brenda's entire life, she has truly lived and breathed the importance of "community." Being a "Preacher's Kid," it was hard not to be surrounded by people with so many needs and the opportunity to gain extended family. During high school she took on the role of President of the FFA and helped to coordinate many outreach projects. College was not different because it was an opportunity to spread her wings and learn more to bring back to the community.

For over a span of 18 years, Brenda worked at Alcorn State University in different capacities. She started as a recruiter for the university in 1988 and served as Director of the Center for Rural Life and Economic Development until 2006. She feels that God led her to her alma mater to serve as a beacon of light for many young people and families. During her tenure at the university, she was able to recruit hundreds of students and become one of the founders of AG-HOPE (Agriculture—Helps Our People Earn). The program allowed over 275 young people from rural America the opportunity to see the other side of Agriculture, Food Science, and Technology.

Today, many of them are outstanding employees of Fortune 500 companies and the USDA. In 2000, the late President Clinton Bristow, Jr., made an administrative appointment and named Ms. Buck as Director of the Center for Rural Life and Economic Development and Executive Director of Traceway Community Development Corporation. This appointment took her to another stepping stone in her career. Being a part of the Institutional Advancement, Planning and Research under the leadership of Dr. Franklin Jackson, Brenda was part of writing over 3 million dollars in grants for outreach in Southwest Mississippi. Many of the dollars provided better living conditions for families and spurred economic growth through small business development.

For years, Brenda prayed that God would show her true calling and purpose. Little did she know that she was already living it every day by making a difference in the lives of those that were less fortunate.

After six years of traveling through Southwest Mississippi, Brenda saw the need to return to her home and roll up her sleeves. October 2, 2006, Brenda returned to Jefferson County as Administrator. The six year journey has been a goal of hers to bring opportunities to the communities. Being a part of over 4 million dollars in funded grants, the community now has a new walking track, funds for a new library, and many other community services. Modest in her doing, Brenda always believes that it was God who placed her to serve the public and she's going to do just that.

Brenda didn't stop in Jefferson County. In October 2012, she was selected as the County Administrator of Claiborne County, Mississippi. She has always considered it as a second home.

Brenda is the mother of four wonderful children—Vincent Delon, Brittany, Brandy, and Tyrese.

She is a dedicated member of the Greenleaf Baptist Church, where she serves in the choir and as president of the Youth Department. She believes in the order of God first, then family and third, her career. Brenda is a team player and encourages everyone around her to reach their greatest given potential because they are unique creations of God. At the end of the day, it's not about the title she wears, but the ability to know that someone in the community is living just a little bit better because of her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Brenda Lashay Turner-Buck for her dedication and determination to take on the challenges of her community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OPEN AND TRANSPARENT SMITHSONIAN ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Open and Transparent Smithsonian Act of 2013 to further ensure that the Smithsonian Institution is accountable to the public for the taxpayer funds it receives. The bill provides that, for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act, the Smithsonian shall be considered a federal agency.

The bill complements my Smithsonian Modernization Act and my Smithsonian Free Admission Act. I introduce these three bills today to make the Smithsonian accountable for the annual federal appropriations it receives, which account for 70 percent of its budget. Although the Smithsonian was created by Congress as a federal trust, it receives the great majority of its funding from the federal government, much like federal agencies, and has always been treated as a federal agency. However, in the 1990s, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit found that the Smithsonian is not a federal agency for purposes of FOIA and the Privacy Act. Indeed, the Smithsonian's website clearly states that it is "not an Executive Branch agency, and FOIA does not apply to the Smithsonian."

This lack of transparency is of great concern, particularly in light of the Smithsonian's recent history of secrecy and corruption. In

2007, an independent review found that the Smithsonian Board of Regents had violated many principles of good management during the tenure of Lawrence Small as Secretary of the Smithsonian. The report indicated that the Board had failed to provide desperately needed oversight, had overcompensated the Secretary, and had allowed the creation of an "insular culture." The report further found that the Smithsonian's deputy secretary and chief operating officer, Sheila Burke, had frequent absences from her duties because of outside activities, including service on corporate boards, for which she earned more than \$1.2 million over six years. Importantly, the report indicated that Smithsonian leaders took great measures to keep secret these missteps and mismanagement.

While the Smithsonian now has new leaders, who are moving away from the mistakes of the past, its transparency should not depend on who is in charge. An entity supported primarily by the federal government must be accountable to the American people. The American people have a right to know that their interests are being served.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

LETTER WRITTEN BY CHRISTINA BONARRIGO

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT,
Gainesville, FL, June 5, 2013.

Hon. CORRINE BROWN,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BROWN: A well-educated workforce is essential to the growth of our country. I firmly believe that higher education is what drives our economy and gives our country its competitive advantage in the current global economy. As the colleges and universities in the United States make progress towards curing cancer and finding alternative energy sources, the cost of a college degree has increased progressively.

According to the SFA Funds Management Report from the University of Florida, over 10,000 students have received \$37,122,091 in subsidized Stafford Loans. Across the board, the cost of a college degree has increased by more than 1,000 percent in the past 35 years and many students simply cannot bear the cost of a college degree.

I do not want to see student loan rates increase, but I recognize the need for long-term solutions to the problems that students face. I, along with the 50,000+ students at the University of Florida, support a bipartisan solution that will contribute to the success of students and support them in today's economy. This is an issue that we care about and it is a discussion that we want to be a part of.

Economics teaches us that stability is one of the greatest influences in any market. Students need to be able to plan for the financial responsibilities of college and a stable loan market is crucially important to providing stability and security. I think that everyone can agree that students should be

focused on their education and college graduates should be focused on their career. Unfortunately, the current loan crisis has students and graduates focused on the amount of money they owe instead of studying and contributing to the nation's economy.

Ensuring that all stakeholders' voices are heard during the discussion is our main priority in finding a long-term solution to student loan rates. We are receptive to entertaining different possible solutions until the best one is found. Students and their families deserve financial stability instead of crippling adjustments or rate increases that would hinder their success. I look forward to discussing this issue with members from the state of Florida, and would gladly share my viewpoint with other Members of Congress.

Go Gators,

CHRISTINA BONARRIGO,
Student Body President,
University of Florida.

HONORING FRANK R. SULLO

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, throughout our nation's history our freedom has been preserved by members of the Armed Forces, and they continue to do so today. As a Member of Congress, I have consistently supported veterans and servicemen and women. They deserve no less from us. We owe the preservation of our freedoms and our way of life to the veterans who proudly served their country.

Today I join the City of Yonkers at its annual Veterans Appreciation Day in honoring Frank R. Sullo, who served his country as an Army infantryman in Vietnam and who received the Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He is a long time resident of Yonkers who attended Public School 18 and graduated from Yonkers High School. He is an active member of the Empire Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 375, and is a member of the American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans.

With his wife, Pearl, and their children, Nicole and Frank, he has a lifetime of accomplishments that has enhanced his city. I am proud to join the City of Yonkers in honoring Frank Sullo, and thank him for his heroic service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO DEUNTAE SHEARD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Deuntae Sheard, a dedicated student, who is making the difference in his community.

Deuntae Sheard was born in Jackson, MS, on May 23, 1993, to the proud parents of Freddie and Elaine Sheard. Elaine is a head-start teacher and Freddie is a deputy for the local sheriff's department. Deuntae is the youngest of three children, Freddie Jr. and Spartel.

Deuntae was raised in Lexington, MS. He went to Lexington Elementary School (LES) and Jacob J. McClain High School and graduated in the top 10 from both schools. He is currently a student at Jackson State University, majoring in mathematics. His goal is to become a math teacher.

While growing up, Deuntae had a desire to teach children, probably because his mother has been a teacher all his life. He became certain in his senior year in high school that he could teach children. During high school, Deuntae joined a group called TATU (Teens Against Tobacco Use). TATU is an organization that teaches students about the effects of using tobacco, the substances in tobacco, and the signs of peer pressure coming from friends and role models. It was then that Deuntae realized that he could be a good role model and that this was the key to being a good teacher and leader. Whenever he was out in the community around his peers and children, he led by example. If the smaller children wanted to play on the basketball court, he would either convince his peers to let them play on half the court or let them play with them while perhaps helping them improve their skills.

Living in the house with a teacher and a deputy taught Deuntae two important things: respect and education. Deuntae's father always told him to respect others and good things will happen and stressed to him the importance of making good grades in school. These teachings helped mold Deuntae into a respectable person and thus respecting all others.

Deuntae believes that if he had the power to help anyone he would do it. When his peers or even elementary kids asked him to help them with the classwork, he did and he was ecstatic whenever a child came back to tell him "Thank you."

Deuntae spent his high school summers at the Community Students Learning Center in Lexington, MS, where he got a head start on his learning before school started in August. At the center, he interacted with the children by playing games, talking with them, and helping them with their work, if asked.

Deuntae is now in his second semester as a junior at Jackson State University. He plans to come back home after graduation for a few years and help teach at one of the local schools or the Community Students Learning Center. His passion for teaching has heightened and he is anxious to start.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a talented student, Mr. Deuntae Sheard, for his zest for teaching and making a difference in his community.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF RONDO DAYS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the families of the Rondo neighborhood in Saint Paul, Minnesota on the 30th anniversary of the Rondo Days festival. Rondo Days offers a remembrance of this historically African-American community that was dramatically altered by the construction of U.S. Interstate 94 in the mid-1960s. More impor-

tantly, Rondo Days is a celebration of the perseverance and tenacity of the modern Rondo community, which remains a vibrant, diverse and thriving neighborhood.

For many decades, Rondo Avenue was the lively center of the African-American community in Saint Paul. Construction of U.S. Interstate 94 in the 1960s resulted in the removal of the avenue along with hundreds of homes and businesses, shattering the tight-knit community. Many families were displaced and the appearance of the neighborhood was forever changed, but the spirit of Rondo lived on. Capturing a strong desire for a community revival, in 1982, Marvin "Roger" Anderson and Floyd Smaller founded a new festival to restore the sense of kinship, stability, and community values of the old Rondo neighborhood. Rondo Days was born, growing into a major annual weekend festival drawing together thousands of residents in celebration of the community. Each year, neighbors and families come together for activities including a senior dinner, 5K walk and run, drill team competition, and the Grand Parade.

The rich legacy of old Rondo Avenue is also the foundation for the future of the new Rondo neighborhood. For decades, many families called Rondo Avenue home, and many new residents from the South were welcomed on doorsteps along the avenue. Residents were proud of their neighborhood and planted deep roots, branching out to start businesses to serve the community and create new opportunity. During a time of segregation and harsh racial disparities, Rondo Avenue allowed many African-Americans to dream big and believe in a brighter future. This pride and these dreams remain undiminished today. As Saint Paul gathers for the 30th time to celebrate Rondo Days, families and neighbors will be reunited, new friends welcomed, and everyone will be looking to an even brighter future.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the community, history, and legacy of the Rondo neighborhood, and as a neighbor myself, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD recognizing the 30th Anniversary of Rondo Days in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

HONORING THE MIAMI HEAT ON THEIR THIRD NBA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

Whereas, The Miami Heat won their third National Basketball Association (NBA) Championship in franchise history on Thursday, June 20, 2013, by defeating the San Antonio Spurs with a score of 95 to 88 in the seventh game of the NBA finals, in Miami, Florida at the American Airlines Arena;

Whereas, During the 2013 NBA playoffs, the Miami Heat defeated the Milwaukee Bucks, Chicago Bulls, Indiana Pacers, and San Antonio Spurs;

Whereas, The Miami Heat are the second team in five years to win back-to-back championships, and the Miami Heat are the first to defeat the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA finals;

Whereas, Since its founding in 1988, the Miami Heat has won three world champion-

ships, four conference titles, nine division titles, and made 17 playoff appearances;

Whereas, The 2012–2013 Miami Heat organization is comprised of players: Ray Allen, Chris Anderson, Joel Anthony, Shane Battier, Chris Bosh, Mario Chalmers, Norris Cole, Udonis Haslem, Juwan Howard, LeBron James, James Jones, Rashard Lewis, Mike Miller, Jarvis Varnado, Dwyane Wade;

Whereas, LeBron James was named the NBA Most Valuable Player during the 2012–2013 regular season, was named the NBA Most Valuable Player during the 2013 finals, and joined Michael Jordan and Bill Russell as the only players in NBA history to win back-to-back NBA finals and regular season MVP awards;

Whereas, The San Antonio Spurs were seconds away from winning the NBA finals until Ray Allen hit a clutch three-pointer, sending the game into overtime and forcing a decisive game seven;

Whereas, The Miami Heat coaching staff exhibited exemplary leadership and guidance; Whereas, The Miami Heat coaching staff, included: Erik Spoelstra, Head Coach; Bob McAdoo, Assistant Coach; Ron Rothstein, Assistant Coach; David Fizdale, Assistant Coach; Chad Kammerer, Assistant Coach; Octavio De La Grana, Assistant Coach; Bill Foran, Strength and Conditioning Coach; Jay Sabol, Athletic Trainer; Rey Jaffet, Assistant Trainer; Rob Pimental, Assistant Trainer;

Whereas, The Miami Heat management has shown a positive commitment to the Miami Heat franchise by successfully acquiring, assembling, and maintaining a team of high-quality, winning players;

Whereas, The Miami Heat Organization consists of executive staff, including: Micky Arison, Managing General Partner; Nick Arison, Chief Executive Officer; Pat Riley, President; Erik Spoelstra, Head Coach; Eric Woolworth, President, Business Operations; Michael McCullough, Executive Vice President/CMO; Mike Walker, Executive Vice President, HEAT Group Enterprises; Alonzo Mourning, Vice President, Player Programs; Stephen Weber, Executive Vice President, Sales; Kim Stone, Executive Vice President/General Manager, American Airlines Arena; Sammy Schulman, Executive Vice President/CFO; Raquel Libman, Executive Vice President/General Counsel;

Whereas, The Miami Heat players have been outstanding role models on and off the court;

Whereas, The Miami Heat organization has enriched the South Florida community through public service programs, including: Heat Academy; Heat Scholarships; Miami Heat Read to Achieve; Miami Heat Fund-Raiser; Miami Heat Wheels; Shoot for the Stars; Books and Basketball Summer Clinics; Heat Youth Basketball; Miami Heat Learn to Swim Program;

Whereas, The Miami Heat fans have been an integral part of this championship by providing unwavering support throughout the entire season, and each and every season prior;

Whereas, The Miami Heat performance against the San Antonio Spurs during the 2013 NBA finals will go down as one the greatest series in NBA history;

Resolved, that the House of Representatives honors the entire Miami Heat organization for winning the 2013 NBA World Championship.

HONORING JAVARIS DEON
RODGERS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Javaris Deon Rodgers, a dedicated student, who is making the difference in his community.

Javaris Deon Rodgers was born and raised in Lexington, Mississippi. He is an only child of two very wonderful parents, Andrew and Shirley Rodgers.

Javaris began school around 6 or 7 years of age. Throughout elementary school he has always had Perfect Attendance and has been on either the Dean or Principal's List. He also received the Superintendent's Award because he excelled so well in academics. He is a very active child, taking Taekwondo and playing baseball until middle school.

Javaris joined J.J. McClain Middle School Marching Band and found a real passion for it. He knew that it was something that he wanted to do long term. Throughout high school, he continued to be a part of the marching band, maintained top grades, and keep his perfect attendance record. In high school, Javaris was also a part of the Yearbook Committee and Prom Committee. During his Junior Year in high school, he received the title "Mr. Junior", elected Senior Class President for the following year and nominated for the Who's Who Among American Scholars. Javaris graduated in the top ten of his high school class in May of 2010 and began his journey on to college that fall. He is currently in college working on a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish at Ole Miss in Oxford, MS. He is also a member of the Alpha Phi Omega Community Service Fraternity, Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Band Service Fraternity, and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Javaris still does community service in the Holmes County community during his breaks. He plans to graduate in May of 2014 with honors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this student, Mr. Javaris Deon Rodgers, for his dedication in making a difference in his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF "MAMA, I WANT TO SING" THE LONGEST RUNNING OFF-BROADWAY SHOW IN AMERICAN HISTORY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the MAMA Foundation's 30th Anniversary of the gospel musical "Mama, I Want to Sing." On Saturday, March 23, 2013, The Dempsey Theater hosted the 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration for "Mama, I Want to Sing," the longest running Black Off-Broadway show in American history, which debuted as a gospel musical in 1983. This Gala event, took place exactly 30 years to the day from when the original production opened in Harlem to great acclaim.

The Gala began with a very special performance that included musical highlights from "Mama, I Want to Sing and Sing, Harlem, Sing!", as well as a performance from the Gospel for Teens Choir. Lesley Stahl, who received an Emmy award for her "60 Minutes" profile on Gospel for Teens, was honored for her contributions to journalism and for her support of the Mama Foundation for the Arts. The 30th Anniversary celebration will include a gala featuring the best of Harlem's renowned restaurants including Sylvia's, Spoonbread, The Red Rooster, Corner Social, Chez Lucien, Jacob's Soul Food, Melba's and Make My Cake. The spiritually uplifting evening culminated in a spontaneous church-inspired closing with R&B divas Cissy Houston, Dionne Warwick, Angie Stone, Valerie Simpson and Crystal Aiken individually joining the Gospel for Teens Choir in a rousing version of "This Little Light of Mine" that brought the sold-out crowd to its feet.

In 1979, Vy Higginsen and her husband, Ken Wydro wrote the book and lyrics for Mama. It was rejected by every major producer in New York. Not one producer believed that the story was worth telling or that an audience could be found for a gospel-based production. Vy and Ken pushed forward and produced the now internationally-acclaimed "Mama, I Want to Sing" gospel musical that tells the story of a talented young girl who dreams of leaving her church choir to pursue a life in popular music, despite strong objections from her mother. A tribute to the many African American artists with church choir roots who rose to fame in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s, creator Higginsen based her musical on the life of her sister Doris Troy whose 1963 hit "Just One Look" launched her to international fame. The show, featured original music by Wesley Naylor opened at Harlem's Hecksher Theater (at El Museo del Barrio) in 1983 and since then has become the "little red engine that could" of Off-Off Broadway productions.

In 1998, Vy Higginsen created the Mama Foundation for the Arts to present, preserve, and promote Gospel, Jazz, and R&B as art forms for current and future generations. The Mama Foundation for the Arts (MFA) has been internationally acclaimed for rebuilding Harlem as an artistic cultural center featuring entertainment and arts education. The Mama Foundation has produced a dozen theater productions, which have been performed on several continents, including its best known musical, "Mama, I Want To Sing."

In 2003, Higginsen created the School of Gospel, Jazz, and R&B Arts. Three years later, she formed the award-winning Gospel for Teens program to train youth and "save the music." According to Lesley Stahl from CBS's "60 Minutes," "The Gospel for Teens program is not just teaching gospel, it is saving these kids." Mama Foundation members have performed at numerous special events including the TED2012 Full Spectrum conference, the Congressional Black Caucus' Annual Legislative Conference, The Stellar Awards, and a reception for Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa. Madonna, Chaka Khan, opera singer Jessye Norman and gospel artist Shirley Caesar are among the many stars that have shared the stage with the Gospel for Teens Choir.

In 2006, she founded Gospel for Teens, a free educational program that offers a substitute for the arts programs removed from

many inner city schools. For her outstanding contributions to gospel music, she was presented with the Thomas A. Dorsey Most Notable Achievement Award at the 2012 Stellar Gospel Music Awards. The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture proclaimed Vy a Harlem Hero in "Harlem Is" a public art and education project of Community Works.

Vocalist and Instructor Ahmaya Knoelle Higginsen, daughter of Vy Higginsen, is the current lead in "Mama, I Want To Sing: The Next Generation." She began her professional career at seven years old starring in 'Sing! Mama 2' with Shirley Caesar at the Theatre at Madison Square Garden and during its world tour in Japan. Ahmaya Knoelle has performed in Gospel Is . . .! and Sing, Harlem, Sing! Internationally, as well as recording on several albums. She studied at the Manhattan School of Music and the American Dramatic and Music Academy in New York. Ahmaya Knoelle also teaches private vocal instruction at the Mama Foundation for the Arts and trains young students in the Foundation's Gospel For Teens program.

The Mama Foundation's mission is to present, preserve, and promote the history and fundamentals of gospel, jazz, and rhythm and blues music for current and future generations. The Foundation has established a cultural space in Harlem where youth and adults have access to quality training and employment as performing artists. The Foundation was inspired by the worldwide success of our award-winning musical, "Mama, I Want to Sing." A combination of arts education, public workshops, and live events contribute to Harlem's resurgence as an artistic and cultural destination. I am so very appreciative for the many contributions of Vy Higginsen and the Mama Foundation. The dedication and devotion to the arts of our community is most commendable and deserving of Congressional Recognition. I ask my colleagues and our Nation to join me in this special celebration of the 30th Anniversary of "Mama, I Want to Sing."

HONORING LOUIS NAVARRO

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, throughout our nation's history our freedom has been preserved by members of the Armed Forces, and they continue to do so today. As a Member of Congress, I have consistently supported veterans and servicemen and women. They deserve no less from us. We owe the preservation of our freedoms and our way of life to the veterans who proudly served their country. Today I join the City of Yonkers at its annual Veterans Appreciation Day in honoring Louis Navarro for his long-time service and participation in the community.

He was born in Puerto Rico, but is a long-time resident of Yonkers, and is the First Vice Commander of the Central Committee of Veterans Organization, where as Parade Chairman for the 2013 Memorial Day Parade, he led it to its largest participation in recent years.

Louis Navarro served in the United States Army for nearly thirty years of active and reserve duty, receiving the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, Expert Rifle Award, and the Army Service Ribbon.

He is a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion, and is active in numerous associations throughout our City, including the Puerto Rican Day Parade Committee, serving as Past Chairman. He is president of his consulting firm of Navarro and Shoub. He and his wife, Donna, have two children, Kaylan and James.

I am proud to join the City of Yonkers in honoring Louis Navarro for his service to his country and his contributions to his fellow veterans and his city.

HONORING EMANUEL D. WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Mr. Emanuel D. Williams.

Emanuel was born August 29, 1995 as the youngest of four children in Jackson, MS to Rev. Calvin Williams and Evg. Dorothy Williams. Though he has always participated in his church, community, and school in some form, he really began to get involved in his school and community during his freshman year. That's when he served as the Chaplain of the Student Government Association, and also the Organizer of daily inspirational services for the students at Weston's 9th Grade Academy in Greenville, MS. That same year he was elected the President of the House of Delta Youth Leadership Initiative, where he tutored a kindergarten student from Ray Brooks Elementary School in Benoit, MS, for two full school terms.

Furthermore, Emanuel was elected the Secretary of the Esquire Art and Civic Club, an organization that promotes and encourages young men to be active in their communities and recognize their civic duties. He continues to serve as Vice President, where he has adopted a local nursing home, thereby visiting and truly enjoying the great personalities of the elderly.

During his sophomore year, Emanuel became a member of the Mayor's Youth Council, a committee of local young people who serve as examples for peers. He participates in different community projects such as the annual clean up that boosts the removal of litter and supports the beautification of Greenville, MS. Emanuel is a member of SOARS (Schools Obtaining Academic Results for Success), a team of community stakeholders who discuss and strategize for the betterment of the school, community, state, and world. He also continues to make his mark in the world by volunteering in his community and local elections where he promotes the exercising of the right to vote. As a graduating senior of the class of 2013, he looks forward to attending college where he can pursue a law career advocating for education, and creating policies and laws as a public servant to make education better and affordable for all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Emanuel D. Williams for his determination and dedication to serving others and giving back to his community.

HONORING MRS. MARY L. HARVEY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Mrs. Mary L. Harvey—who devoted her long career in Baltimore County government to preserving and improving communities—on the occasion of the posthumous dedication of the “Center-Piece Family Arts Center” in her name.

A lifelong resident of Perry Hall, Mrs. Harvey graduated from Perry Hall High School in 1976 and from the Community College of Baltimore County in Dundalk in 1986. She became active in eastern Baltimore County politics and worked as a legislative aide to the Baltimore County Council for eight years.

After witnessing first-hand her tireless drive and passion for helping people, I appointed Mrs. Harvey to the position of Eastern Sector Coordinator within the Office of Community Conservation during my tenure as Baltimore County Executive. Her excellent work twice earned her promotions: first, as manager of revitalization efforts and then director of the office. Mrs. Harvey was reappointed to the position and retained it until 2010.

Mrs. Harvey was a true visionary. Under her leadership, Baltimore County embraced the concept of the “Urban Design Assistance Team,” which encourages input from community members. She also oversaw the construction of three new community centers and developed partnerships with local businesses that lead to safer affordable living communities for thousands of county residents. Her constant goal was to create neighborhoods that were vibrant, attractive and family-friendly. She had a special compassion for the homeless and coordinated a 10-year plan to eradicate it in Baltimore County.

Mrs. Harvey's accolades were many. She was the Baltimore County Commission for Women's “Woman of the Year” in 1995 and received the “Renaissance Milestone Award” from the Dundalk Renaissance Corporation in 2010. She served on the boards of the Essex Community College Foundation, the Essex-Middle River-White Marsh Chamber of Commerce and the Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mrs. Mary L. Harvey, whose legacy of service to the families of Baltimore County continues today. I have many happy memories of working with Mrs. Harvey and wish to thank her family for their support during her years in county government. I could not think of a more appropriate or well-deserved namesake for this beautiful new facility in one of Mrs. Harvey's favorite communities.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,281,074,058.77. We've added \$6,111,404,035,145.69 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REQUIRE NOTICE OF EXCESS REAL PROPERTY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to make the General Services Administration (GSA) a more transparent federal agency.

This bill would require GSA to provide public notice of excess properties as soon as they are identified by federal agencies as such. Although excess properties will continue to be offered to other federal agencies before going through the normal property disposal process, this early notice to all, including federal agencies, the larger community and Congress, will increase transparency in how the federal government manages its property. The Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management has had difficulty ensuring that GSA acts as soon as possible to dispose of properties it has determined to be excess. GSA's practice of delaying notice of unused properties to the public while it informs federal agencies only further existing delay by GSA in moving either to use or dispose of property for the benefit of taxpayers. Importantly, the early public notice required by this bill also will provide the opportunity for local communities to plan for possible disposal of the property.

Recent hearings held by two different subcommittees documented how delayed notice had resulted in inaction by GSA, which did not move on the problem until the hearings were called. With silence from GSA about a long-vacant but large and valuable property, residents in the burgeoning M Street Southeast area of the District of Columbia went to the trouble of creating a professional proposal for redeveloping the property, as revealed in the hearing.

Both the Administration and the House, where two property disposal bills are pending, have weighed in on GSA's poor asset management and missed market opportunities, which continue to cost taxpayers significant sums of money. There are significant costs associated with GSA's vacant or underperforming assets, including for operation, maintenance and security. For this reason, in 2003, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) placed real property management on its list of “high risk” government activities, where it remains today. GAO conducts biennial reviews of the federal government to highlight specific areas needing added attention and oversight. Programs are identified as “high risk” due to their greater vulnerabilities to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement or due to the need for broad-based transformation to address major challenges.

Still, the periodic GAO reviews, executive orders and memoranda issued during this and

the prior administration, and acts of Congress have not brought significantly improved management of federal real property. My bill would ensure that Congress, local communities and federal agencies have the earliest notice that federal properties may become available, and would be a further tool to foster earlier and more efficient property disposal.

TRIBUTE TO MISS GABRIELLE
NICOLE TERRETT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a multi-talented young lady, Miss Gabrielle Nicole Terrett.

Gabrielle Nicole Terrett is the 14 year old daughter of Dr. Andre' and Attorney Toni Terrett. She is the eldest of five and a 9th grader at Warren Central High School in Vicksburg.

Gabrielle is an all around student that has excelled in both academics and extracurricular activities. She is a member of the Warren Central Big Blue Band flute section. She also plays the violin and has performed at local nursing homes over the years. Gabrielle has received several awards including placing 1st in Jewelry in the Hobbs-Freeman Art Competition-2012, 2nd place in the Hobbs-Freeman Art competition-2012, 2nd place in the 2013 Blacks in Government Oratorical Contest, 3rd in the 2012 NAACP essay contest, and 2nd Runner Up in the 2013 Miss Southland Pageant.

Gabrielle volunteers at the Mountain of Faith Women's Shelter Retail Store. As a volunteer she helps stock shelves, organize the store and assist customers to the store. She is very pleasant to work with and supports the Women's Shelter as often as possible. In her spare time she enjoys quiet time reading, preparing for pageants, and shopping.

She is a faithful member of Pleasant Green Baptist Church in Vicksburg, MS where she is active in Sunday school.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Miss Gabrielle Nicole Terrett for her hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM
AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF
2013 (H.R. 1947)

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I remain in strong opposition to the House Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013 (H.R. 1947) otherwise known as the 'Farm Bill'. On June 20, 2013, I along with the majority of my colleagues voted against House Republican's extreme bill. Now farmers in Minnesota and across this country are depending on Congress to reach a bipartisan agreement that will continue to grow our agricultural economy and enable us to best meet our future agriculture needs.

In the past, the Farm Bill has received strong bipartisan support. Members of Congress from both rural and urban districts found common ground to support our agriculture sector, keep food affordable, and continue investments in agricultural research. However, this year the House Republican Leadership chose to put partisan politics before the best interests of our farmers, ranchers, and communities.

The bill that I voted against included an unprecedented cut to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Of the almost \$40 billion in cuts, more than half come from a devastating reduction to the nutrition assistance for poor children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. An estimated 38,000 Minnesotans and nearly 2 million Americans would lose their SNAP benefits entirely and 210,000 children would no longer receive free meals at school.

In June, along with Congressman ELLISON, I hosted a listening discussion on the impact that these cuts would have on Minnesotans. The audience heard from state and county officials, faith leaders, community service providers, and individuals that receive SNAP. The testimony, often emotional, demonstrated the clear need for SNAP to ensure individuals are able to access healthy food.

Patricia Lull, Executive Director of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches, spoke of the growing need that churches in Minnesota have witnessed. She told us, "We come from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Unitarian, and Quaker backgrounds, but every one of our faith traditions agrees with this conviction—No more hungry neighbors!"

Evelyn, a Minnesota senior and diabetic, recently began receiving SNAP benefits. She told us about how the rising cost of her medications had thrown her into Medicare Part D's donut hole and forced her to cut her expenses as low as she could. According to Evelyn, without SNAP she would be unable to afford the healthy meals she needs to keep her diabetes in check. She was already worried about how she would cope with the estimated 4% reduction that will take effect this November. If she was no longer eligible for SNAP, she told us she wouldn't know what to do.

In addition to the cuts already included in the bill, Tea-Party Republicans added polarizing amendments that would make it even more difficult to qualify for SNAP. One of the amendments would give states the ability to require all SNAP applicants to submit to drug testing. Another allowed states to require parents and some persons with disabilities to meet work requirements in order to qualify for SNAP. These destructive amendments would create new barriers for struggling Americans to access nutrition assistance, while doing nothing to improve efficiency or reduce fraud. Simply, Tea-Party Republicans voted to make a bad bill even worse.

After failing to pass their own bill, the House Republican Leadership has an obligation to move forward a bipartisan Farm Bill that does not harm our poorest Americans. I call on the House Republican Majority to bring the Senate passed bipartisan Farm Bill (S. 954) to the floor for an up or down vote. While not perfect, the Senate-passed bill includes common-sense reforms to outdated programs, makes modest changes to SNAP, reaffirms our commitment to conservation, and eliminates wasteful spending.

Minnesota farmers are depending on Congress to act swiftly and pass a long-term Farm Bill before the current extension expires. Together, Democrats and Republicans can pass the Senate's Farm Bill before summer's end and give certainty to America's farmers, ranchers, and consumers.

TRIBUTE TO JOCELYN TAYLOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Jocelyn Taylor.

Ms. Taylor is the daughter of Mr. Marlin and Mrs. Rosalind Taylor of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Ms. Taylor is a senior at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School in Mound Bayou, Mississippi. As a child she has been focused, outgoing and dedicated to whatever she desires to achieve. During her tenure at I.T. Montgomery Elementary School in Mound Bayou, Mississippi her endeavors were to always better herself and become more than a statistic and has carried that mindset during her journey through high school.

Ms. Taylor is active in the Future Business Leaders of America which is a non-profit organization of high school and college students as well as professional members' who primarily assist students' in transitioning in the business/entrepreneur environment. As a member she has participated in various competitions and has won numerous recognitions and awards.

Ms. Taylor is active in the Bolivar County Community Action Agency's Senior Select Program. This program gives senior high school students the opportunity to intern at various community businesses to learn professional skills and techniques and to showcase their skills, while encouraging the importance of school attendance and giving back to their respective communities. I have had the honor of having her intern in my Mound Bayou District Office and found her to be a dedicated and outstanding intern and volunteer.

Ms. Taylor strives to be a positive example for her two younger siblings Joshua and Jordan. She credits her parents for their influence in her life as they encourage her to reach her full potential. Her late grandmother, Ms. Mary Alice Sinclair, was an inspiration in her life and gave her great tips on life and how to survive as a young lady.

Ms. Taylor has received numerous educational certificates and awards. Upon graduating in May 2013, she will further her education at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi to pursue a degree in Business Administration and become an entrepreneur.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jocelyn Taylor for her dedication in being an outstanding student.

RECOGNIZING KITSAP COUNTY BUSINESSWOMAN AMY IGLOI ON RECEIVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON BUSINESS

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amy Igloi of Kitsap County for receiving the "Community Service Award" from the Association of Washington Business. Ms. Igloi is the General Manager of "Amy's on the Bay Restaurant and Bar" in downtown Port Orchard, WA.

Amy Igloi has owned and operated her business in Port Orchard for seven years and currently employs 22 local residents. "Amy's on the Bay" feeds approximately 70,000 customers annually and is a cornerstone business on the Port Orchard waterfront. "Amy's on the Bay" is widely known throughout the Puget Sound region as having some of the finest cuisine in the area—especially the crab cakes and burgers.

Ms. Igloi and her business have been recognized this year by the Association of Washington Business for their dedication to Port Orchard, Kitsap County, and its residents. Numerous community organizations have directly benefitted from the donations generated by Ms. Igloi and her team, including those that serve the homeless, special needs, and elderly populations.

Mr. Speaker, in our economic situation, communities depend on citizens like Amy Igloi to help ensure that vulnerable populations are taken care of in tough times.

As I close, Mr. Speaker, I can say with confidence that residents of Port Orchard and Kitsap County have greatly benefitted from the civic and philanthropic contributions of Amy Igloi and her staff. I applaud her recent award and am grateful that she continues to serve wonderful meals and employ citizens in Kitsap County, Washington.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WILLIAMS, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a public servant, who is no stranger to hard work, Mr. John Williams, Sr.

John Williams, Sr. is a lifelong resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi and was born on July 15, 1953 to David and Mary Brown. He is a graduate of Henry Weathers High School located in Rolling Fork, MS.

John has been employed with the City of Rolling Fork for about 24 years. He is a volunteer fireman for the City of Rolling Fork.

John is married to DeLinda Williams and they have five children: John, Jr., Lee Odoms, Renea Flood, Keith Flood and Wanda Jackson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. John Williams, Sr. for his dedication to serving others and giving back to

the community in which he was born and raised.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
SMITHSONIAN MODERNIZATION
ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce three bills to modernize the Smithsonian Institution and to enhance its governance and fundraising capabilities, in keeping with the recommendations of a number of experts, including the Smithsonian Independent Review Committee, chaired by former U.S. Comptroller General Charles Bowsher. This bill, the Smithsonian Modernization Act, makes changes to the Smithsonian's governance structure by expanding and changing the composition of its Board of Regents, from 17 members, which includes six Members of Congress, the Vice President of the United States, and the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, to 21 members, comprised solely of private citizens. This change will strengthen both the Smithsonian's governance and fundraising capacity, and it is the first significant change in this old and revered institution since it was established in 1846. The second bill, the Smithsonian Free Admission Act of 2013, seeks to preserve the long-standing free admission policy for permanent exhibits at an institution that is largely funded by the federal government, as envisioned by James Smithson, its founder. Finally, the Open and Transparent Smithsonian Act of 2013 will apply the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act to the Smithsonian in the same manner they apply to federal agencies.

The Smithsonian Institution is an irreplaceable cultural, scientific, historical, educational and artistic complex without any public or private counterpart in the world. Since its founding, the Smithsonian has developed an extraordinary array of world-class museums, galleries, educational showplaces and unique research centers, including 19 museums and galleries, nine research facilities, the National Zoo, and the forthcoming National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is now under construction. The Smithsonian has grown with private funding and donations from American culture and life, but most of its funding continues to come from federal appropriations. Despite receiving 70 percent of its funding from the federal government, the Smithsonian has long had serious infrastructure and other needs.

Congress must help the Smithsonian strengthen its ability to build resources beyond what taxpayers are able to provide. The most important step Congress could take today is to rescue the Smithsonian from its 19th-century governance structure, which keeps it from accessing needed and available private resources and limits close and critical oversight. The Smithsonian Modernization Act provides a governance structure befitting the Smithsonian's unique complexity. The difficulties the Smithsonian has faced result in part from the limitations inherent in its antiquated governance structure. The existing structure may have fit the Smithsonian over 170 years

ago, but today the structure has proven to be a relic that does a disservice to the Smithsonian. The present governance structure places immense responsibility on dedicated but over-extended Members of the House and Senate, the Vice President of the United States and the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. These federal officials comprise almost half of the Smithsonian Board of Regents, and must perform their fiduciary duties as board members while giving first priority to their sworn responsibilities as important federal officials.

In 2007, an independent review committee found that the Board had violated principles of good management during the tenure of former Secretary of the Smithsonian Lawrence Small allowing him to create an "insular culture." The committee's report indicated that the Board had failed to provide desperately needed oversight and had overcompensated Mr. Small. The report also found that Sheila P. Burke, the Smithsonian's then-deputy secretary and chief operating officer, had frequent absences from her duties because of outside activities, including service on corporate boards, for which she earned more than \$1.2 million over six years. Further, the Smithsonian's then-business ventures chief, Gary Beer, was dismissed for financial indiscretions. This crisis, caused by unprecedented controversies and irresponsible risks, put into sharp focus the need for new revenue streams and for a modern governance structure. The first full-blown scandal in the Smithsonian's history, replete with embarrassing media coverage, damaged its reputation and perhaps the confidence of potential contributors. The poor judgment and overreaching of Smithsonian personnel during that period requires new and concentrated oversight by citizens for whom the Smithsonian would command priority attention.

The Board, of course, has taken some important action on its own. After irregularities were uncovered by the media, the Board responded to the controversies by creating a governance committee, chaired by Patty Stonesifer, a Regent and former chief executive officer of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, with a mandate to comprehensively review the policies and practices of the Smithsonian and how the Board conducts its oversight of the institution. The Board also established an Independent Review Committee (IRC), chaired by former U.S. Comptroller General Charles A. Bowsher, to review the issues arising from an Inspector General's report and the Board's response, and related Smithsonian practices.

The IRC was forthright in its investigation and recommendations. The IRC stated explicitly that the root cause of the problems at the Smithsonian was an antiquated governance structure, which led to failures in governance and management. According to the IRC, the Board must assume a fiduciary duty that carries a "major commitment of time and effort, a reputational risk, and potentially, financial liability." The IRC further argued that the Smithsonian, with a budget of over \$1 billion a year, must have Board members who "act as true fiduciaries and who have both the time and the experience to assume the responsibilities of setting strategy and providing oversight." The IRC cited a lack of clarity in the roles of the Vice President of the United States and Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court on

the Board, and said that "it is not feasible to expect the Chief Justice to devote the hours necessary to serve as a fiduciary agent." The same observation could be made of the Members of the House and Senate who serve on the Board. The IRC recommended that the Board increase the level of expertise and the number of members to ensure that the Board has sufficient time and attention to dedicate to the Smithsonian.

The Smithsonian's own governance committee identified several Board weaknesses, concluding that the Board did not receive or demand the reports necessary for competent decision-making, that the staff whom the Board depended upon for oversight inquiries did not have direct access to information, and that the inability of staff to communicate red flags "crippled" internal compliance and oversight.

Only Congress, with the concurrence of the president, can amend the Smithsonian Charter. The last change to the Board's structure occurred over 30 years ago, but it only increased the number of private citizens on the Board from six to nine.

The number of Regents, however, is not the root problem. Although the bill expands the Board from 17 to 21 members, most importantly, it brings the Board into alignment with modern public and private boards by requiring all Regents to be private citizens. The search for private funds by Smithsonian management was a major cause of the recent controversy. Faced with crippling budget problems, the Regents must be free to give new and unprecedented attention and energy to finding and helping to raise substantially more funds from private sources. The new structure envisioned by the bill will improve oversight and the capacity for fundraising from private sources. Unlike federal officials on the Board, private citizens on the Board are entirely free to assist in private fundraising. Most importantly, private citizens have sufficient expertise to serve on the Board, and are able to devote the personal time and attention necessary to fulfill the fiduciary responsibility that comes with serving such a venerable and complex institution.

The bill preserves and strengthens the traditional role of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate in selecting Board members while eliminating the self-perpetuating role of the Board in selecting private citizens for the Board. The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate will each send 12 recommendations to the President of the United States, who will select the 21 members of the Board from those recommendations.

Considering the seriousness of the findings of the Board's own governance committee and of the IRC, the changes prescribed by the bill are nothing short of necessary. The reform of the fiduciary and governance issues that have brought public criticism to this iconic American institution must begin with the indispensable step of making the Smithsonian's governance consistent with that of other institutions today. Only congressional attention can reassure the public that the controversies that recently besieged the Smithsonian will not recur. In the face of an unprecedented public controversy, Congress would be remiss if it left the Smithsonian to its own oversight and devices alone for improvement.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING MS. MARKEISHA S. ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Ms. Markeisha S. Robinson.

In May 2012, Markeisha received her high school diploma as an Honor Graduate from Greenville Weston High School, in Greenville, MS. Additionally, she was crowned Miss Kappa Alpha Psi 2012–2013. During her senior year, she was afforded the opportunity to complete collegiate courses. She accepted the opportunity, worked extremely hard to not only complete the advanced level courses, but to do so with a 3.89 GPA. The fruit of her labor paid off, when she arrived at Jackson State University (JSU) with eighteen hours, being classified as a second semester freshman.

Although brief, Markeisha's tenure at JSU has been filled with challenges, successes and retrospect. She has come to appreciate the results of hard work. She joined MADDRAMA, a JSU performing arts group. The rigors of preparation and rehearsals coupled with determination and drive have proven to be her foundation.

Markeisha is a sophomore and Dean's List Scholar from Greenville, Mississippi. She is a public speaker majoring in Communicative Disorders. Upon completion of her degree, she plans to become a speech pathologist providing tips, techniques and skills to enable the speech impaired to overcome such disorders through individualized sessions at her private practice.

As a student, her strengths are dedication and determination. She is dedicated to her class work and extracurricular activities. Also, she is determined to reach her goals, graduate from college in three years, and continue her education by pursuing a Master's Degree in Speech Pathology.

Markeisha is a very optimistic person. Her favorite scripture in The Bible is "Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Markeisha S. Robinson for her determination and dedication to serving others and giving back to her community.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN B. CARTER JR.

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize a close friend, former classmate and fraternity brother of mine, Mr. John B. Carter Jr., on his recent retirement. On June 30, 2013, John retired as President and Chief Operating Officer of the Georgia Tech Foundation (GTF). The Georgia Tech Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation which manages the philanthropic gifts given to the Georgia Institute of Technology by alumni, corporations, foundations, staff, faculty, students, family, and friends in support of academic excellence and tradition.

John graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1970. For the past 14 years, he has led the Foundation's day-to-day operations and has been responsible for 175,000 alumni data records, accounting and financial reporting, legal issues and negotiations, administration, and Executive, Committee, Board, and Trustee relations. Prior to leading the Foundation, John served 16 years as Vice President and Executive Director of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association and served our nation for six years in the U.S. Navy. His 30 years of dedicated service to our alma mater is rare and to be commended. John's leadership has influenced many through his devotion, fortitude, and kindness, and will be set apart in the years to come. I am grateful for his example of service and for his friendship.

The Georgia Institute of Technology and the Georgia Tech Foundation are fortunate to have such dedicated and innovative alumnus professionals as John B. Carter Jr. His commitment to excellence, leadership and service is to be admired, and may it inspire others to follow in his footsteps. My sincerest wishes and congratulations to him on his retirement.

HONORING RICHARD MICHALSKI

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of my friend Richard P. Michalski. After over four decades of loyal and dedicated service, Mr. Michalski has retired from his position as General Vice President of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM).

Mr. Michalski is an example of an American success story. He began his long time association with IAM in 1968 as member of the IAM Local Lodge 1916 while working as a welder with General Electric in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He climbed the ranks and moved up to Local Lodge President.

Rich Michalski has dedicated his life to promoting workers as he served in various positions with the IAM. In 1992, he became IAM's Director of Legislative and Political Action Department. It was in this position that he served as a champion of the rights of working men and women by advocating for their concerns with Members of Congress and relentlessly pursuing their interests in Congress.

Mr. Michalski's became a member of IAM's Executive Board in 2006 where he served as the General Vice President and continued to fight for the advancement of workers across the United States.

I want to extend my warmest and most sincere thanks to Rich for his lifelong devotion to American Labor. Thank you for your friendship and your counsel. Truly the great cause of our time is to help protect the American Dream for working men and women who built this nation. I am proud to have joined with Rich in the cause. Rich's long and illustrious career from humble beginnings as a welder to the leadership of one of the world's great unions will not be forgotten and I congratulate him and wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF U.S. ARMY
SERGEANT JAVIER SANCHEZ, JR.

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of U.S. Army Sergeant Javier Sanchez, Jr., 28, of Greenfield, California, who died when an improvised explosive device hit his vehicle on a combat patrol on June 23, 2013 in Sar Rowzah, Afghanistan.

Javier was a graduate of the Greenfield High School and joined the Army in August 2006 serving in Baumholder, Germany, Fort Irwin, California and most recently in Fort Drum, New York. Javier was an infantryman and had previously deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2007 to 2008 with 1–6 Infantry of the 1st Armored Division. In his current assignment Javier was with the Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team based at Fort Drum, New York.

He is a hero to his family, the city of Greenfield, the State of California, and the people of the United States and we express our deepest gratitude for his service to our country. As his uncle most recently stated, “He always had this ‘country first’ attitude and I think that’s what made him sign up.” In the face of war, this is the truest definition of courage and character, an example that all soldiers should strive emulate. His selfless act is one that will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire House, I would like to extend the nation’s deepest sympathies to Javier’s wife Cassandra Sanchez, his mother Margarita Sanchez, and his father Javier Sanchez, Sr. Sergeant Javier Sanchez, Jr. served his nation honorably, and sacrificed his life. He is an American hero.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to cast votes on Monday, July 8, 2013 due to inclement weather that prevented me from making it to Washington, DC.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO NAME THE U.S. COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill, at the request of the U.S. Coast Guard, to direct the General Services Administration to name the new U.S. Coast Guard headquarters, on the St. Elizabeths West Campus, the “Douglas A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building.” Signalman First Class Douglas Albert Munro is the U.S. Coast Guard’s only Medal of Honor recipient. Signalman First Class Munro died heroically on Point Cruz, Guadalcanal after succeeding

in his assignment, for which he had volunteered, to evacuate a detachment of Marines that had been overwhelmed by the enemy.

On September 27, 1942, after making preliminary plans for the evacuation of nearly 500 beleaguered Marines from Point Cruz, Guadalcanal, Signalman First Class Munro, under attack by enemy machineguns on the island, led five small boats toward the shore. As he closed onto the beach, he signaled the other boats to land. Then, in order to draw the enemy’s fire from a western attack and protect the boat heavily loaded with the Marines, he placed his boat as a shield between the beachhead and the enemy. When the evacuation was nearly completed, Signalman First Class Munro was killed by enemy fire. Due to his outstanding leadership and willingness to sacrifice his own life, Signalman First Class Munro and his fellow members of the U.S. Coast Guard undoubtedly saved the lives of many service men that otherwise would have been killed in the line of duty.

Signalman First Class Munro was educated at South Cle Elum Grade School in Washington state, and graduated from Cle Elum High School in 1937. He attended Central Washington College of Education for a year and left to enlist in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1939. He had an outstanding record as an enlisted man and was promoted rapidly through the various ratings to a Signalman First Class. In addition to being a Medal of Honor recipient, Signalman First Class Munro was also posthumously awarded the Purple Heart Medal, and was eligible for the American Defense Service Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

The new U.S. Coast Guard headquarters building, which I propose to be named for Signalman First Class Douglas A. Munro, will be 1.1 million square feet and will house up to 3,700 U.S. Coast Guard employees. The U.S. Coast Guard headquarters building represents the first phase of the eventual consolidation of 4.5 million square feet of office space scattered around the National Capital Region to the West Campus of the old St. Elizabeths Hospital, located in the Anacostia neighborhood of Washington, D.C. The Department of Homeland Security headquarters consolidation construction project marks the first time the federal government will locate a federal agency east of the Anacostia River.

I believe that Signalman First Class Douglas A. Munro’s outstanding service to his country and his unique status as the only member of the U.S. Coast Guard to earn the Medal of Honor ensure that it is particularly fitting to name the new U.S. Coast Guard headquarters the “Douglas A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen personal reasons, on June 28, 2013 I was not present to vote on final passage of H.R. 2231—the “Offshore Energy and Jobs Act.” If present I would have voted “nay.”

Domestic energy production is thriving under the Obama Administration’s “all of the

above” energy strategy. In 2012, American oil production reached the highest level in two decades, and natural gas production reached an all-time high while U.S. oil imports fell to the lowest level in nearly 20 years. Our current energy policies are leading to U.S. energy independence and reducing our reliance on Middle East oil. I am committed to promoting safe and responsible domestic oil and gas development, but H.R. 2231 is an irresponsible plan to expand offshore drilling without proper environmental protections and considerations.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 10

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance

To hold hearings to examine stopping fraudulent robocall scams, focusing on if more can be done.

SR-253

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine repealing the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) and the path forward, focusing on a view from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 815, to prohibit the employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, and any pending nominations.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine lessons learned from the Boston Marathon bombings, focusing on preparing for and responding to the attack.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patricia Ann Millett, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Gregory Howard Woods, to be United States District Judge for the

Southern District of New York, Elizabeth A. Wolford, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of New York, and Debra M. Brown, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Mississippi.

SD-226

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine building job opportunities for veterans.

SH-216

2 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine diabetes research, focusing on reducing the burden of diabetes at all ages and stages.

SDG-50

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine Smithfield, focusing on foreign purchases of American food companies.

SD-562

JULY 11

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense operations conducted pursuant to the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force and the presidential policy guidance on counterterrorism.

SVC-217

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1237, to improve the administration of programs in the insular areas.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

SD-106

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine assessing the transition in Afghanistan.

SD-419

11 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine mitigating systemic risk through Wall Street reforms.

SD-538

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Byron Todd Jones, of Minnesota, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and Stuart F. Delery, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, Todd M. Hughes, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Colin Stirling Bruce, to be United States District Judge for the

Central District of Illinois, Sara Lee Ellis, and Andrea R. Wood, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and Madeline Hughes Haikala, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

SD-226

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Victoria Nuland, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, Douglas Edward Lute, of Indiana, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and Daniel Brooks Baer, of Colorado, to be U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, with the rank of Ambassador, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 15

3 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine strategic sourcing, focusing on leveraging the government's buying power to save billions.

SD-342

JULY 16

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on the situation in Syria.

SVC-217

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine how United States gasoline and fuel prices are being affected by the current boom in domestic oil production and the restructuring of the United States refining industry and distribution system.

SD-366

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine S. 980, to provide for enhanced embassy security.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Water and Power

To hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Reclamation's Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study.

SD-366

JULY 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services Subcommittee on SeaPower

To receive a closed briefing on the major threats facing Navy forces and the Navy's current and projected capabilities to meet those threats.

SVC-217

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SH-216

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 235, to provide for the conveyance of certain property located in Anchorage, Alaska, from the United States to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and S. 920, to allow the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in the State of Minnesota to lease or transfer certain land.

SD-628

3 p.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine small business tax reform, focusing on making the tax code work for entrepreneurs and startups.

SR-428A

JULY 18

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of General Martin E. Dempsey, USA for reappointment to the grade of general and reappointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN for reappointment to the grade of admiral and reappointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

SH-216

AUGUST 1

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the November 6, 2012 referendum on the political status of Puerto Rico and the Administration's response.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 11

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2014 for the Federal Communications Commission.

SD-138